



Dear Bloomington Neighbors,

This year HAND has whipped up a recipe book, "My Neighborhood's Pot Luck Idea!" a collection from Bloomington neighbors of methods that make a neighborhood project work. Many thanks to all the neighbors that took the time to submit a "My neighborhood's Pot Luck Idea!"

The recipe books have been placed in binder so we can add recipes to them as new ideas come in. If you have a new idea for the "My Neighborhood Pot Luck Idea!" please send it to Vickie Provine at provinev@bloomington.in.gov. You can also find "My Neighborhood Pot Luck Idea!" online on our Neighborhood Services website.

Thanks to all our Bloomington neighbors whose countless hours of work and commitment make their neighborhoods, as well as the Bloomington community, a great place to live!

Thanks!

Doris Sims.

Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development

Vickie Provine

Neighborhood Services

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Name of Neighborhood Association: Arden Place Neighborhood Association: APNA

Name of Project: Annual Spring Clean Up

Contact Person: Ann Edmonds

Telephone Number: 812 334 2831

Email Address: ann.edmonds@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture: No picture, but sample FAQ document

Describe Project: Every spring we rent a dumpster for a weekend and a chipper for a four hour period on a Saturday in the spring. We send email to our neighborhood mailing list to announce the date several weeks in advance and a more detailed FAQ email later. We also distribute flyers printed by HAND. Neighbors bring brush and tree limbs to a dead end in the neighborhood where the chipper and dumpster are located. Neighbors with pickups or utility trailers drive around picking up wood for the chipper and household items for the dumpster. Some people bring things in their wheelbarrows. We also have an exchange of reusable items: furniture, bicycles, children's items, etc. Reusable items that don't find a new home in the neighborhood are taken to Restore or Goodwill. A neighbor takes metal items for salvage. We keep the pile of wood chips at the dead end for neighbors to come get for their gardens. Neighbors really get to know each other as they work together helping each other.

Cost of Project: The cost of the chipper has been \$300 for several years. The dumpster cost varies depending on the weight of the contents. It's been as high as \$425; this year it was \$312.

<u>Tips on making it work</u>: Call more than one vendor for your dumpster to check prices; they may raise their prices since the previous years and last year's best deal may not be the best this year. We have consistently used the same chipper vendor, but may call others next year. Choose a weekend where it won't rain; rain can add considerably to your dumpster disposal fee. ;-}

We look forward to seeing you at our annual neighborhood clean up. Once again we have answers to questions related to this year's clean up. If you have any additional questions or concerns, let us know.

When is the clean up? The chipper will be here Saturday, May 13, 9 am to 1 pm. You can start bringing your branches May 12 (see below). The dumpster will be in place the entire weekend.

Where is the clean up? On Wilton Drive, north of the intersection with Arden.

How much does it cost? Your annual APNA dues pay for neighborhood expenses, including the chipper and dumpster. The neighborhood voted to increase the dues to \$20/year in 2014. They had been \$15/year for many years. Please be fair and pay your share.

What if I have branches and can't come during the cleanup time? Please contact Ann to make arrangements. You can leave your branches in front of 1714 S Wilton just off the street May 12, or at your house if you arrange for volunteer pick up with us. Having branches piled up and ready to go the night before works really well.

Can I just put my branches in the dumpster after the clean up is over instead of bringing them to the chipper? Please do not do this. We have to pay for disposal of the dumpster by weight. The disposal fee is \$50.74 per ton in addition to the base and delivery fees. In contrast, we pay for the chipper at a set fee. If the clean up time is inconvenient for you, please make arrangements to bring your branches early or have them picked up by a neighbor.

What kinds of things should go in the dumpster? Items should be non-recyclable, non-hazardous waste and too large to go in your regular weekly pickup. Please do not bring recyclable items like cardboard, newspaper, or recyclable plastic or glass.

How big can the branches be? Up to 8 inches in diameter and at least a foot long, the longer the better.

Do I have to fill out forms to volunteer this year? We are not getting a HAND grant to cover any of the cost of the clean up this year, so no forms are required (other than your dues check).

Do we still have to volunteer? Neighbor helping neighbor is a great way to

Name of Neighborhood Association: ARDEN PLACE

Name of Project: MAPLE TREE GIRAFFES; what can be done with a tree stump.

Contact Person: ELSPETH THIBOS

Telephone Number: 812 333 0055

Email Address: thibos.e@comcast.net

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

CARVE A TREE STUMP INTO THE SHAPE OF 2 GIRAFFES (MOTHER AND CHILD)

Cost of Project:

\$250 FOR SCAFFOLDING MATERIAL

Tips on making it work:

A TEAM OF 2 WITH AT LEAST ONE TEAM MEMBER EXPERIENCED IN WOOD CARVING.

NEEDS A LOT OF TIME (I MONTH), ALONG WITH SUPPORT TO PROVIDE BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SUNDOWNERS AND DINNER ETC. :-)

CHAINSAWS AND ELECTRIC CHISELS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR REMOVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF WOOD FROM THE DEAD TREE STUMP.

FINISH WITH OIL-BASED, EXTERIOR DECK STAIN.

NB. ONE WILL MEET MORE PEOPLE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE WITH THIS KIND OF PROJECT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD - 9 MONTHS SINCE COMPLETION, PEOPLE ARE STILL STOPPING TO ENJOY THE SCENE.





Name of Neighborhood Association: Bloomington Housing Authority Resident Council Inc.

Name of Project: Green Clean Buckets

Contact Person: Tammy Long-BHARC President

Telephone Number: 812-272-0724

Email Address: Tammycar54@yahoo.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

The Resident Council, in conjunction with a Small & Simple Grant from HAND, provides new residents with the buckets at time of move-in. The Housing Authority has found that this is helpful at time of move in because residents may not have money for cleaning supplies. The "green" cleaning supplies, other than the dish detergent, can be purchased with food stamps because they are food items. Over the years we have found that the percentage of passed inspections has gone up due to this intervention strategy of providing them with cleaning supplies. The ingredients are not toxic, which is good for both residents and pets.

Cost of Project: About \$20.00 per bucket, with the contents and extras we provide.

Tips on making it work:

Including tools like a plunger helps to minimize maintenance calls. Including "recipes" for the use of the cleaning supplies can be found online and a list compiled to give to residents.

"Green" Bucket Contents

- 1 mop
- 1 broom
- 2 spray bottles
- 1 dustpan
- 1 box baking soda
- 1 dish detergent
- 1 pkg bathroom tissue
- 1 sponge
- 1 pkg salt
- 1 bottle vinegar
- 1 bottle peroxide (or lemon juice)
- 2 cloths
- 1 towel

Crestmont Resident Council "Green" Welcome Bucket Project



My Neighborhood's Pot Luck Idea!

Instead of bringing food to a Pot Luck Share a great idea that works in your neighborhood!

Neighborhood Association

Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)

Project

Fiber Installation

Contact Person

John Grigutis

Telephone Number

+1 812 369 1008

Email Address

jonukas@icloud.com

Description

At our 2014 annual neighborhood association meeting, the topic of Internet/TV/phone service was raised. For several years, residents had been unhappy with the existing carriers (AT&T and Comcast) and complained about poor service, frequent outages, and increasingly high rates. Since Blue Ridge is close to a local Internet provider headquartered in Ellettsville (Smithville Fiber), we thought it might be worth asking them if they'd be willing to expand to our neighborhood. The cost to lay fiber to our neighborhood would probably be less than other areas just due to our location. If nothing else, having another option for Internet/TV/phone service would give us more choices and give the incumbent providers a little competition.

Our board president had talked to Smithville in the past about coming to Blue Ridge, but nothing ever came of those inquiries. This time, though, Smithville was willing to meet with us to discuss the possibility.

Cost of Project

\$0. It only cost the association time and effort to set up neighborhood meetings, build support among the residents, answer questions, do research, etc.

Tips on Making It Work

Although some think this project was a cakewalk for Smithville, it wasn't. It might seem that way in hindsight, but it was only successful because of efforts like these:

Sell the Idea/Build Support

Like other neighborhoods who are trying to get fiber, if you don't have enough residents who are willing to sign up for the service, it's not going to happen. That was the same for us. We have a lot of seniors in our neighborhood and getting them to sign up for some new technology they don't understand was hard. "Why should I sign up for this fiber stuff when I don't use the Internet and I'm happy with my TV/phone service the way it is?" Convincing these people that fiber is worth it is difficult, but they are essential for making the project economically feasible. Here are a few points to emphasize:

- The Future Modern telecommunications infrastructure started with the telephone and later cable came along. Fiber is the next step.
- Competition It will finally give AT&T and Comcast some much needed competition.
- Cost In Smithville's case, their base price was higher than the promo price of AT&T or Comcast, but after the promo ends, Smithville was cheaper (and much faster).
- Investment Properties with fiber will fetch a higher asking price when it's time to sell.

If you can show the provider (Smithville or anyone else) that at least 40% of your residents are already interested in fiber, then it'll be a lot easier to get the ball rolling.

Draw a Picture/Do the Math

When you can show something visually, it makes a greater impact than just words alone. By creating charts that compared the fiber provider's proposed speeds and cost with those of the existing providers, it showed how different their service was and how slow and overpriced the others were in comparison. See attachment.

Hold a Meeting

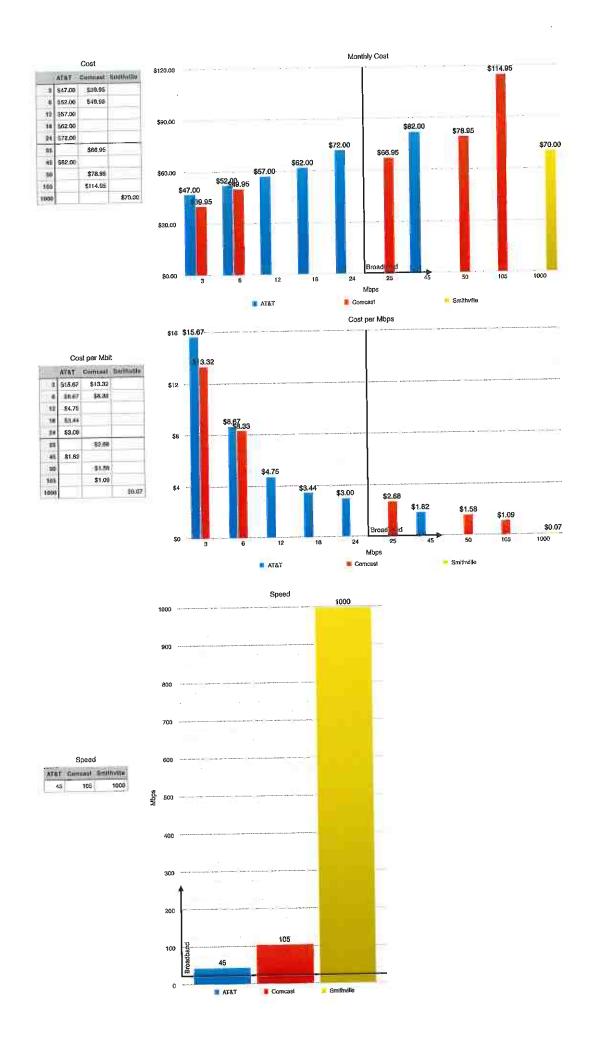
Having a meeting where residents could hear the sales pitch from the provider was essential. It gave the provider a chance to make their case directly to the residents, and the residents could ask questions directly to the people with the answers.

Communicate

A key factor to the success of the project was communication among the residents. We started using the private social network Nextdoor for neighborhood communication around the time this project started. In the early days, people posted when they signed up for the project, and this allowed us to know how many people we still needed in order to get the green light. People also asked questions during the construction phase and alerted us to problems which we could address. Even now, residents can ask questions and get help from other residents when issues arise.







Name of Neighborhood Association: Broadview Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Annual Newsletter

Contact Person: Debra A. Morrow

Telephone Number: 812-822-2444

Email Address: broadviewneighborhood@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project: Every year the Broadview Neighborhood Association prints a newsletter and send it to all residents and businesses in the neighborhood. A group of dedicated neighborhood residents gather and share a meal while planning what should be included in the newsletter. This newsletter provides useful information for residents regarding the neighborhood association meetings, upcoming events, general information as well as updates from the previous year. The goal of the newsletter is to make all of the residents of the Broadview Neighborhood feel like they are part of a neighborhood that welcomes and values the idea of neighbors knowing each other and working together to make an enjoyable community.

Cost of Project: The cost of the newsletter will be dependent on the size of the neighborhood. Broadview works with a printing company to receive discounted rates for their printing. The cost of postage can be eliminated by hand delivering the newsletters. The Broadview Neighborhood Association has successfully applied for the City of Bloomington's Small and Simple Grant to cover the costs of the newsletter.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> One of the most important components of making a successful newsletter is having a group of neighborhood residents who are able to work together on this project. The task is too large for one or two people and having several people involved not only reduces the workload for all, and instead becomes a fun activity for everyone involved-especially if you include food and good socializing in the process!

Name of Neighborhood Association: Broadview

Name of Project: Neighborhood Clean-up

Contact Person: Liz Sluder

Telephone Number: 332-7323

Email Address: bw6cw4gw01@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project: This year BNA applied for and received a Neighborhood Clean-up Grant from HAND. Vickie Provine and Jo Stong do the work of finding and doing the legal work for the site. They also line up the city workers that will help, dump truck(s), chipper, Hazmat truck, pickups, barriers, signs, etc. Broadview Learning Center allows the use of their parking lot for the site. BNA finds the neighbors to volunteer as supervisors, pick up drivers, site workers and food preparers and food set up.

Cost of Project The cost to the neighborhood is minimal and is for hot dogs, buns, charcoal, plates, cups, drinks, condiments.

Tips on making it work: Broadview has done this project every three years and our clean-up is one of the biggest and best in the city. Here are some tips.

1. People who cannot get their trash to the site due to age or lack of vehicles are told to call one or two numbers a week or two prior and arrange for a pick up and volunteers to come and help. The homeowner must be present to avoid something being picked up by mistake.

2. Get as many volunteers signed up as possible via meetings, phone calls, and neighbors talking to neighbors. Some volunteers come at the last moment and some can only stay for a short time but we welcome any help.

3. Thanks to HAND door hangers were distributed to every residence in Broadview within 10 days of the event.

4. Only Broadview residents are permitted to use the clean-up site so no newspaper or any other form of communication was used except the door hangers.

5. At Broadview's shelter house in our neighborhood park, hot dogs, chips, drink, desserts, and donuts are available for free for anyone whether working, or just visiting the park.

6. One of Broadview's finest ladies gets several grocery carts full of items from Kroger South's bakery making desserts plentiful.

7. Another wonderful lady got a gift certificate from Wal-Mart which helped

purchase drinks, chips, and other needed items.

8. This year cookies and donuts and water were taken from the shelter house to workers and people waiting in cars, vans and trucks.

9. Thank you notes are sent to HAND, Broadview Learning Center, Kroger South and Wal-Mart. Neighbors are encouraged to show their appreciation.

Broadview Neighborhood Cleanup



Name of Neighborhood Association: Broadview Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Neighborhood Litter Clean-Up

Contact Person: Debra Morrow/Shirley Evans

Telephone Number: 812-822-2444

Email Address: broadviewneighborhood@gmail.com



Describe Project: This project can be completed with a few residents but if you have more residents helping you can get more litter picked up in less time! The City of Bloomington Hand Office provides neighborhood residents with blue trash bags to use when they pick up litter in their neighborhood and these bags of litter can be put out on trash day to be picked up without a trash sticker since they are not actually your personal trash but litter that you picked up from public areas in your neighborhood. This project is as simple as choosing a day, picking up bags from the HAND office and gathering a group of neighbors for an hour or two of work. Safety should always be the highest priority so work with a partner or in a group, be cautious of traffic and be careful not to let your bags become too heavy as you are walking. A good idea is to start from the farthest point and to pick up litter as you walk towards the drop off spot for your bags so they are not too heavy to carry. The HAND Department and Vicky Provine can be very helpful and may be able to loan the neighborhood traffic slowing signs as well as safety vests. By working together, you can make your neighborhood beautiful!

Name of Neighborhood Association:

Bryan Park Neighborhood Association (BPNA)

Name of Project:

Google Group Email Distribution List

Contact Person:

Jon Lawrence

Telephone Number:

812-650-2810

Email Address:

iontlawrence@gmail.com

Describe Project:

The BPNA needed a way to allow neighbors to easily communicate information quickly about neighborhood related events, projects and concerns. For example, notification of upcoming neighborhood meetings, distribution of minutes/agendas, lost dogs, and vandalism. There are many ways to accomplish this, all with various pros and cons.

The BPNA decided on Google Groups. Google Groups is a feature of Google Apps that makes it easy to communicate and collaborate with groups of people. A *group* is like a mailing list: It contains the email addresses of its members, but also has its own address. Our address is bryanpark@googlegroups.com. Using just the *one* email address for the group, you can:

- Send email to group members
- Invite group members to meetings
- Share your content (e.g., Google documents, sites, videos, and calendars) with group members

To send an email message to a group, simply enter the group's address as a recipient in the **To** field. If you start typing the address, it will auto-complete in the field.

There are various ways to implement Google Groups activity. We have chosen to limit membership so that only "Accepted" members may send and receive e-mail. This means that there needs to be an administrator who manages access to the group.

For more information about Google Groups, visit:

https://groups.google.com

Cost of Project:

Free

Tips on making it work:

- Neighbors need to know about the Google Group to be able to ask to be added. We collect e-mail addresses at all neighborhood meetings and events.
 We also advertise the Group on our website.
- Administrators can directly add members to the group, or they can send electronic "invitations" which need to be accepted by the new member. We prefer the invitation method so that there is no misunderstanding about membership in the group.
- Though administration is not difficult, it is helpful to have someone who is a bit computer savvy. The activity, once started, is minimal. Bryan Park contains approximately 750 households and our Google Group contains approximately 300 members. On average, there are less than 2 requests per week to be added or removed from the list.
- We have no formal rules about e-mail etiquette, though we are considering adopting rules. In general, we ask that e-mails be neighborhood specific. Our experience has been that when conversations drift to topics unrelated to the neighborhood, members ask to be removed from the list.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Bryan Park Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Planning a Neighborhood Block Party

Contact Person: Jon Lawrence

Telephone Number:

Email Address: bryanparkna@gmail.com

Describe Project:

- History The Bryan Park Neighborhood Association has hosted a neighborhood block party the past 12+ years with much success. We have had between 200 and 400 people attend each year. It's become a staple of our neighborhood's summer and a way to welcome new neighbors and build community. We have a band play each year (using neighborhood musicians). Our event is a pitch-in where neighbors bring a plated dish of some sort. The Neighborhood Association partners with a local restaurant to donate food and the neighborhood association supplies everything else. This is a great way to meet new neighbors, and a good environment to encourage neighborhood communication.
- Getting started Where, when, how are all important questions to ask and answer. Most importantly, we realized that the best place to hold the party was within the neighborhood itself. With Bryan Park so near, it was tempting to hold the party in the park. After a few failed attempts and advice from a HAND workshop, we realized the best place to hold the event was deep inside the neighborhood on one of our neighborhood streets. There's something magical about blocking off a street and holding an event where cars usually zip past.
- Pick a date Be aware of the rhythms of your neighborhood. With lots of students in our neighborhood, we found it beneficial to hold the event soon after students tend to move into houses prior to the start of school (late August). Weather is another issue to consider. August tends to be dry, though that's no guarantee.
- Close the road The City's Board of Public Works

 (https://bloomington.in.gov/sections/viewSection.php?section_id=149) controls the
 closing of city streets. They meet every other Tuesday at 5:30. They will want to know
 that you have contacted everyone on the affected street to alert them about the party
 and street closure. We recommend a letter to everyone (Dear Neighbor is fine) with
 information about the party and how they can attend the Board of Public Works Hearing
 if they have an issue with the street closing. Best to talk to you neighbors ahead of time.
 Contact Public Works at: public.works@bloomington.in.gov

- Small and Simple Grant the City's HAND department offers grants to fund community building events just like this. They'll pay up to \$1000 for just about anything but food (tables, chairs, musicians, cups, plates, cutlery, charcoal...). You provide matching funds that include neighborhood volunteer time spent in helping with the event (a great way to encourage neighborhood participation).
- Invitation/Communication Every neighborhood seems to have a different way of communicating information. Use your usual method/s. Bryan Park has had great success with door hanger invitations. We print 2-sided information, 3 invitations per sheet on an 8 ½" piece of card stock, drilled with a hole at the top to accept a rubber band. Though tempting to use neighborhood newsletters, be forewarned that many people do not dig into the details of newsletters. Keep your invitation a single purpose piece of communication. Email is great, but you won't have email for everyone in your neighborhood. A specific invitation dropped at everyone's door will be more affective, and you'll be reaching out to people who might not hear from you otherwise!
- For more information/advice, feel free to contact the Bryan Park Neighborhood Association at bryanparkna@gmail.com

Cost of Project:
Cash match
In-kind donations and volunteers



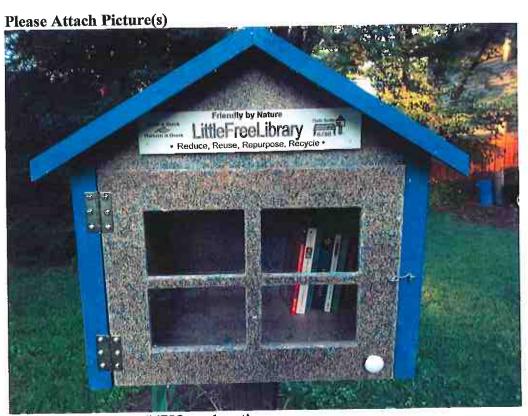
Name of Neighborhood Association: Grandview Hills NA

Name of Project: Little Free Library

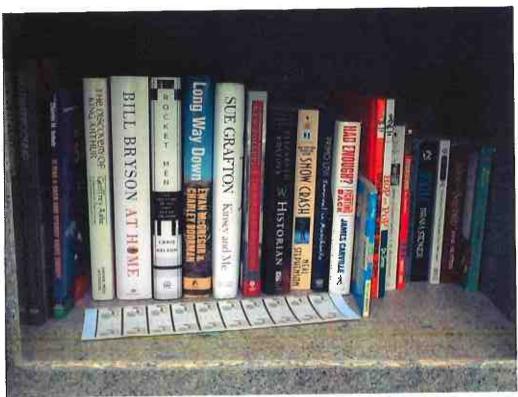
Contact Person: Meagan Eller

Telephone Number: 812-323-8316

Email Address: Meagan_eller@me.com



Little Free Library #6788, on location.



The current selection, along with labels for any new books.

<u>Describe Project:</u> Our neighborhood has long talked about a book exchange, but it has never worked out. When we learned about the Little Free Library movement (http://www.littlefreelibrary.org/), it seemed a perfect opportunity to share books amongst neighbors (and of course anyone else who wants to stop by).

We ordered the library, choosing from the available models, deciding that a model that has been tested was a good way to go. Once the library arrived, we mounted it on a post and stocked a few books inside. Neighbors filled the rest within the first 24 hours.

The goal of a Little Free Library is for people to take a book and/or leave a book. The selection of available titles will hopefully change frequently. We have chosen to stock a variety of books: fiction and non-fiction, classics and modern titles, children's and adult books.

<u>Cost of Project:</u> The project cost approximately \$315, the cost of the library and shipping, plus the brackets to mount it. We reused a post, so there was no cost involved there. The books have all been donated.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> The library has been up for less than a week, but we hope it will be successful. The biggest hurdles, after the cost, is getting word out and helping people past their shyness of walking up the path to the library. As with all Little Free Libraries, our library is available to anyone who stops by, so we check the books inside and make sure the path is clear on a regular basis.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Grandview Hills

Name of Project: Afghan Project

Contact Person: Gillian Field

Telephone Number: 812 339 7514

Email Address: gfield104@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

Our Neighborhood Stitching Group started meeting to share a common interest of knitting, crocheting, stitching and mending. It was a way to get to know each better. We meet one time per month and rotate the meeting location to each member's home.

I proposed the Afghan project based on a 'Warm Up America' http://www.warmupamerica.org/ pattern and project idea. The group eagerly embraced the idea and we started early 2013. We all had leftover yarn to donate, and found needles and crochet hooks in our supply baskets. And for a couple of dollars, we sourced a few balls of yarn from Opportunity House and Goodwill.

The project was a very positive experience and the common goal helped link us together. We each enjoyed making the Afghan blocks in our meeting, individually at home, on vacations, or on a lunch hour at work. The finished piece includes 49 blocks - 7 rows of 7 blocks, all 7" x 9" in size. Knitted and crochet blocks in all patterns were encouraged. We finished the project in early Feb 2014 and donated it to Middle Way House, Bloomington, Indiana. One of members delivered the project and reported:

"I just delivered the Afghan to Toby Strout, Director, at Middle Way house. They were amazed and thrilled to have it! And I got a chance to tell them a little about our neighborhood. They insisted on taking my picture with it, though I made sure to let them know several people contributed to the work. I think they will use this in their newsletter."

Our group consists of experienced stitchers who were very excited to welcome two 10 year old neighbors to our group. We have all enjoyed getting to know each other.

This project is suitable for all levels. Give it a try! We did and we loved it!

Grandview





Name of Neighborhood Association: Grandview Hills

Name of Project: Remove Invasive Plants Work Day

Contact Person: Gillian Field

Telephone Number: 812 331 4298

Email Address: gfield104@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

Grandview Hills Neighborhood organized a spring work day to identify and remove Purple Winter creeper Euonymus fortunei, and other invasive plants from our yards.

- The work day was a great community builder
- We met new neighbors and made friends
- We helped a neighbor who was overwhelmed by the invasive plant overgrowth
- The work day set a precedent to help each other tackle hard problems
- The work day spurred us into action to clean up our neighborhood
- We addressed the environmental damage caused by invasive plants
- We learned about new trends in gardening and landscaping
- We learned how critical native plants are in supporting wildlife

Getting started

We used our neighborhood email Listserve to communicate with our neighbors. We asked people to respond to show their interest, to be involved, or if they needed help in identifying and removing plants. We included a pdf of how to identify Winter Creeper in our yards. (See the attached files).

We set a Date and Time (1-3 on a Saturday) and a Rain Date. We asked one neighbor to volunteer to be the work day host and demonstration site. We gave a brief list of things for neighbors to bring: tools, hat and water.

We invited an expert on the subject of invasive plants- Ellen Jacquart from Monroe County Identify and Reduce Invasive Species (MCIRIS.org) - to demonstrate how to control invasive plants.

On the day

- On the work day we received a demonstration of the different ways to remove invasive plants.
- We asked questions
- We learned about the best kind of native plants to grow to replace invasive plants

- We removed invasive plants
- We shared native plants grown by our neighbors.
- We took before and after photos.
- We were astonished at how much we achieved as a group.
- We laughed and had fun!

Cost of Project: No cost

Tips on making it work:

- Identify the way your neighborhood communicates- Listserve, facebook other ways.
- Plan ahead, remind people of the date.
- On the day, thank everyone for joining in, encourage everyone to introduce each other, thank your plant expert for coming to your neighborhood.
- After the event send a thank you to your expert and share positive feedback from the day.
- Share your photos and let your other neighbors know how the day went.
- Follow up with another work day each season, or sooner.
- · Keep the momentum going!

Grandview Hills Remove Invasive Plants Work Day!





Controlling Wintercreeper (Euonymus fortunei)

Cut stem treatment

If you have large diameter (>1/4") vines climbing trees or walls, cut the vine with pruners or saw and treat the cut stem with glyphosate (sold as Roundup, Drexel Imitator Plus [available at Rural King], Glypro, and many other trade names). Refer to the product label for the dilution rate to use for cut stem treatment (for instance, Drexel Imitator Plus, which has 41% active ingredient, is to be used full strength or diluted 1:1 with water for cut stem treatments). No surfactant needs to be added for cut stem treatments. Stems can be treated whenever the temperature is above freezing other than in spring (April-May) when rising sap may prevent the uptake of herbicide through the cut. Check for resprouts from the base of the cut vine and pull them out or use a foliar herbicide spray until there are no more sprouts.

If your stems are small diameter (<1/4") and growing in a mat over the ground you can pull or mulch the plants or use a foliar herbicide spray.

Pulling wintercreeper

Start at the edge of the wintercreeper mat and pull the vines gently and slowly so the roots are pulled up with the vine. You can roll up the vines as you work, ending with a large ball of vines which should be chipped or composted. Do not leave the pulled vines in contact with the ground; they will re-root and start growing again. Pulling is most effective when ground is not frozen and is somewhat moist, but can be done most times of year. There will be resprouting from underground stems; these resprouts will need to be pulled for multiple years to finally eradicate the plants.

Mulching wintercreeper

Place pieces of cardboard over the plants, making sure the cardboard extends at least 6" beyond the edge of the wintercreeper. Cover the cardboard with 3" to 5" of leaf or wood chip mulch. The mulch must stay in place for **at least two growing seasons** to kill the plants, and note that all other plants under the mulch will die as well. To increase effectiveness, continue to layer cardboard and mulch until the pile is 12" deep. Cutting the plants with a weed whacker before adding cardboard and mulch may also increase effectiveness.

Bloomington Urban Woodlands Project http://www.indiana.edu/~sustain/programs/buwp/

Foliar herbicide spray

Wintercreeper leaves can be sprayed with a glyphosate solution (sold as Roundup, Drexel Imitator Plus [available at Rural King], Glypro, and many other trade names). Refer to the product label for the dilution rate to use for foliar treatment (for instance, Drexel Imitator Plus, which has 41% active ingredient, recommends diluting the product to 2% for most foliar applications. That is, 2 parts herbicide to 98 parts water. However, wintercreeper leaves are tough and require a stronger solution. 5% is recommended; for one gallon of mix, that means 6.5 ounces herbicide with water added to make one gallon volume.)

A non-ionic surfactant should be added to the mix so the herbicide can penetrate the waxy leaf cuticle on wintercreeper. There are many surfactants for sale, but NuFilm IR is a surfactant recommended for plants with waxy cuticles and should be added at 0.3%. This means adding 0.4 oz per gallon of mix.

Spray on days when the high temperature exceeds 40 degrees F, winds are less than 5 mph, and leaves are dry. Spraying in late fall (mid-October to late November) or early spring (February to mid-March) when native plants are still dormant will minimize non-target damage. Spraying during times of drought may decrease the uptake of chemical and reduce effectiveness.

Because wintercreeper can have multiple layers of leaves, the first foliar spray may not reach all of the leaves. One option is to use a weed whacker to cut the top layer of leaves off and expose the bottom layer, then spray that layer. A second option is to do another foliar spray a month or two after the initial treatment, once the top layer has died and exposed the bottom layer. The treated area should be checked for resprouts in the next two growing seasons and the spraying repeated until the infestation is gone.

Example of glyphosate herbicide label:

http://www.drexelchemical.com/Products/Labels/Drexel_Imitator-Plus_10092_LABEL.pdf (5% solution = 6.5 oz. per gallon)

Nufilm IR surfactant:

http://www.rrsi.com/res/product/labels/Nu-Film-IR_LABEL.pdf (0.3% solution = 0.4 oz. per gallon)

INVASIVE PLANT FACT SHEET Purple Wintercreeper Euonymus fortunei

DESCRIPTION AND IDENTIFICATION

A climbing, evergreen vine, purple wintercreeper is an invasive species that can reach up to 30 feet tall with dark green, oval leaves about 1-3 inches long. Leaves are opposite, simple, and leathery with toothed margins. Roots and stems are thick and woody. Wintercreeper forms a thick ground cover and aggressively creeps up trees. Flowers are small, green, and bloom in clusters during June and July. Fruits are smooth with an orange coating. Because wintercreeper can tolerate a wide range of soils, it is able to grow in a variety of forests and urban, wooded environments.











WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

Purple Wintercreeper forms dense ground cover, swamping out native plant life. This also harms our native wildlife, including many species of birds and insects, which rely on native plants for food and other resources.



ORIGIN

Wintercreeper originated in China and is also native to Japan and Korea, where it is common to woodlands, scrublands, and forests.



In areas that have only a small amount of wintercreeper, vines should be pulled from the ground and removed entirely from the site. This method may be labor intensive and requires that all roots, seeds, and seedlings are removed to avoid regrowth. In areas that are heavily affected, large diameter vines on trees should be cut, and a glyphosate herbicide should be sprayed on the cut stem according to label instructions. For small diameter vines, a glyphosate herbicide should be sprayed on the leaves according to label directions. Treatment should be done in late fall and winter, so as to avoid disturbing emerging wildflowers and other dormant native species. Care should be taken to always follow instructions on herbicides.

continued on back

INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES FACT SHEET

Purple Wintercreeper



TERNATIVE PLANTS



Woodbine Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Woody perennial, grows up to 60 ft.

Alternate, palmate, compound leaves are dark green, with deep red fall color Habitat: Deciduous woodlands and borders, rocky bluffs; can climb walls Partial sun and moist to dry soil

Faunal associations: Bees, moth caterpillars, deer & rabbits



Wild Ginger Asarum canadense

Herbaceous perennial, grows up to 1 ft.

Heart or kidney shaped leaves, small purplish brown flowers

Habitat: Rich, wooded slopes

Partial to full shade and moist, well-drained soil

Faunal associations: Flies, beetles, ants



Dwarf Crested Iris Iris cristata

Woodland perennial, grows to 0.5 ft. Pale blue or lilac flowers with gold crests Habitat: Wooded uplands, well-drained slopes Full sun to partial shade, moist to dry soil.

Faunal associations: Hummingbirds, bees



Wild Stonecrop Sedum ternatum

Herbaceous perennial, grows up to 10 in.

Small, leaves in whorls of three with white flowers

Habitat: Wooded ravines and banks along rivers and rocky bluffs

Partial sun to full shade and mesic to dry soil

Faunal associations: Bees, occasionally wasps & flies



Christmas Fern Polystichum acrostichoides

Perennial fern, grows up to 2.5 ft.

Green leaf with 20-40 leaflets, which are on either side of the central stalk Habitat: Rocky, upland woodlands, wooded slopes, cliffs

Shade to partial sun and moist to dry soils

Faunal associations: Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey



Brown Fox Sedge Carex vulpinoidea

Perennial sedge, grows up to 3.5 ft

Light green, narrow, rough textured leaves

Habitat: Floodplain woodlands, swamps, and soggy river-bottom prairies.

Full to partial sun and wet to moist soils.

Faunal associations: Skipper caterpillars, leaf beetles, sedge grasshoppers

REFERENCES

Homoya, Michael A. Wildflowers and Ferns of Indiana Forests: A Field Guide. Bloomington, 1N: Indiana UP, 2012. Print

"Wintercreeper Control," Missouri's Fish, Forests and Wildlife. Missouri Department of Conservation http://mdc.mo.gov/your-property/problem-plants-and-animals/invasive-plants/wintercreeper-control "Vines-Purple Wintercreeper." National Parks Service. National Parks Service.

http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/eufo.htm "Journey with Nature-Wintercreeper." About the Invasive Winter Creeper. The Nature Conservancy. http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/indiana/journeywithnature/wintercreeper.xml

Learn more at indiana.edu/~sustain/programs/buwp and www.mc-iris.org



GREEN ACRES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Project: Green Acres Neighborhood Garden Contact Person: Ann Kreilkamp phone: 812-606-9563

email: arkcrone@gmail.com

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Green Acres Neighborhood Garden, at the corner of DeKist and Overhill Drive, was created by transforming a sunny side yard lawn into a permaculture commons. The GANG garden functions to grow food, to show how to grow food, to serve as a gathering spot for community life, and to encourage other neighborhoods to invest in garden commons. To help leverage this template for cooperative living, both the workshops, and now the seasonal life of the garden, have been extensively blogged, first on tendrepress.com, and now on ganggarden.wordpress.com.

The GANG is the only commons in the Green Acres Neighborhood. We have no park.

An unusual type of private/public enterprise, the GANG garden is situated on privately owned land that the owner, Ann Kreilkamp, has turned over for public use. It has and continues to go through many iterations, evolving each growing season into a more and more fertile and densely packed, lovingly tended "permanent culture" heartland.

For the first two years, the garden got up to speed as a prime location for permaculture workshops, five or six per year, given by permaculture instructors, including Keith Johnson, Rhonda Baird, and Nathan Harmon. The GANG garden has also enjoyed a number of SPEA interns over the years, and partnered with a SPEA course on Sustainability during the first two years, serving as a project center where they built experimental compost structures (that didn't work too well) and a cob oven (that we had to tear down after only one firing).

The cob oven, and an experimental ferrocement wall behind it, were determined by the city to be out of compliance with zoning laws, after a complaint by a nearby neighbor. Also, the city decided that we could only hold three workshops per year.

This year and last, a Garden Director has been hired, for a small monthly stipend—last year SPEA student, Stephanie Gardner, this year Goddard student and permaculturist, Jim Ollis. Stephanie got interns from SPEA to work with her; they are still with us, plus another one who has joined the team.

We have held a few GANA neighborhood meetings and lots of "garden parties" of various kinds over the years in the picnic area of the garden, next to the garden pond with fish and frogs, two of them with children's workshops included. Last year's party was held in August, with an attendance of perhaps 50 people. GOES course participants come by each year to see the garden, as have other groups, and individuals, from as far away as Philadelphia, Louisville and Indianapolis.

Each year a few people from the neighborhood join us, most of them transient, as is the nature of this university town. We also have a few "regulars." Though we haven't had great participation, so far, from those living in the neighborhood as we had hoped, the project is still young. As the central project and showpiece of GANA, the Green Acres Neighborhood Association, and GANE, the newly designated

(by a website) Green Acres Neighborhood Ecovillage, the project continues to be a vital and evolving aspect of life in Green Acres.

Our long term vision includes other GANG gardens in the neighborhood. We would like to rename this first garden GANG 1, followed by GANG 2, 3, and so on. There is some progress toward GANG 2 this year, though still in the planning stages.

COST OF PROJECT

Costs have varied, depending on the year. When necessary, Ann K. has footed the bills, helped by donations from workshop participants for teachers, and by a non-profit association, ARC (Association for Regenerative Culture), which pays the Garden Director stipend (\$100 per month during the growing season). We also received a \$1000 Small and Simple Grant from HAND the first year, to help pay for tools. Ann also pays \$125 per year for insurance.

TIPS ON MAKING IT WORK:

Think positive, and think long term. Look at every crisis as an opportunity. For example, when the neighbor complained about our beloved cob oven (created by hand by SPEA students, who stomped the cob with their bare feet and shaped the walls with their hands), I spent five months thinking about this sudden difficulty that had stopped us in our tracks. I needed to transform my own fury and disappointment into neutrality before I could come up with a creative way to integrate what had happened into the community's life. I decided to hold a quasi-Buddhist "Ceremony of Impermanence," wherein we symbolically fed one final little fire with the attitudes within ourselves that we would like to release, and then each of us, somberly, and with great force, took turns formally whacking the cob oven to death with a sledge hammer.

We did it on a somber, rainy Saturday. Afterwards, of course, as usual, we retired to my house for a potluck.

This incident, and its aftermath, the way we healed it, felt archetypal. For there will always be that one neighbor in a neighborhood who refuses to integrate him or herself in any attempts at a common life. How we work with such difficulties is of the utmost importance. We attempt to resolve differences, but where they cannot be resolved, then we aim to immerse the situation in love and ask that we learn how to live with, and ultimately, how to creatively integrate our differences into our common life.

Websites that refer to Green Acres Neighborhood and this project (google them).

Green Acres Neighborhood Association (GANA): Green Acres Neighborhood Ecovillage (GANE) Green Acres Neighborhood Garden (GANG) Tendre Press (archival) Exopermaculture

Green Acres Neighborhood Garden



Name of Neighborhood Association:

Green Acres
Name of Project:
Thursday Community Dinners
Contact Person:
Ann Kreilkamp
Whoever, out of two homes in this ecopod, is the "lead" for that dinner. There are six of us altogether, so each one is the lead once every six weeks. The lead decides on theme, makes entrée, puts out publicity, gets others to help her or him with set up and dishes. Participants bring food or not; put a donation in the jar, or not; the meals are not potlucks, they are offerings.
Telephone Number:
812-606-9563
·
Email Address:
arkcrone@gmail.com
Please Attach Picture(s)
Describe the Project:
Starting in August 2015, we held a community dinner every weekend during the IU school year. We will now take two months off and plan to start again in August 2016. Besides great food and conversation, community dinners can be filled with music, art projects, including chalk art, and stories from afar. Sometimes we hold special celebrations: Like the Witchy Women Equinox Luncheon, Celebration, Meditation, and Collage! Or our Halloween party, the prep for which is documented in photos. Though we don't hold regular dinners in May-July, we are going to host Potluck for the local Time Bank in mid-June — and who knows what else will spontaneously arise from this little band of folks who love community.
The momentum for our Community Dinners has been growing remarkably over this year. Somewhere between 15 and 25 people currently participate. Not all are neighbors; some are friends of neighbors. We are decidedly multigenerational, and encourage especially children and older people to join with young ones in their 20s and 30s.
Cost:
Everyone contributes — or not, food or donation.



Green Acres Thursday Community Dinners







Name of Neighborhood Association: Green Acres Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Healing Our Borders, Phase One: Neighborhood Signs

Contact Person: Ann Kreilkamp

Telephone Number: 812-606-9563

Email Address: arkcrone@gmail.com

Describe Project:

As a result of the Bypass Widening, which wounded the borders of our Green Acres Neighborhood by taking out most of the trees that protected us from traffic noise, we decided to work towards healing those borders. The project includes three phases: first, signs, next paint the 7th street tunnel (this is presently in motion, thanks to the city), and third, a path and small park next to the tunnel (path in place, also thanks to the city, with small park planned for next year).

Former Green Acres resident Katarina Koh, along with three other young people, two of them also neighborhood residents, spent one full year from spring 2015 through spring 2016, to write and complete a Neighborhood Improvement Grant to add five beautiful neighborhood signs, each one different, to grace the edges of our neighborhood. Meeting weekly, they consulted regularly with Vickie Provine of HAND, and with relevant property owners; they decided sign locations, oversaw the design and construction of the signs, and, with the help of other Green Acres residents, constructed and put in place grow boxes underneath three of them.

The entire tale is told on the www.exopermaculture website: Green Acres Sign Saga, including the amazing story of one of the signs that was immediately stolen, and returned a year later! (https://www.exopermaculture.com/green-acres-village/green-acres-sign-saga/)

Cost of Project:

\$10.000

Tips on making it work:

Put Katarina in charge! She's incredibly focused, creative and determined. Whatever she decides to do, she makes sure it gets done, with lots of help from her friends. So grateful!



My Neighborhood's "Pot Luck" Idea!

Instead of bringing food to a "Pot Luck"

Share a great idea that works in your neighborhood!

Name of Neighborhood Association: Longwood-Devon

Name of Project: Hardly a project. We call it "Silvers."

Contact Person: Martha Wailes

Telephone Number: (812) 339-0072

Email Address: marthawailes@gmail.com

Describe Project:

We are a small neighborhood association, about 33 houses, so we do generally know each other. Many of us are aging in place. The retired or older non-working people in the neighborhood get together about once a month at 10 am, usually with coffee or tea provided, no food, just to talk. Group size has ranged from 2-10. It's a way to get to know each other better, keep tabs, even bring up neighborhood issues. There is almost no organization involved

Cost of Project:

Host provides hot water, tea bags and/or coffee.

Tips on making it work:

Someone has to set a date and send the email message, call the person who doesn't use email. Someone has to be willing to be a host for a couple of times when it is starting and to be the fall-back host.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Near West Side

Name of Project: Gardeners' Tour

Contact Person: Sophia Hauserman

Telephone Number: 332-5556

Email Address: sofyhaus@sbcglobal.net

Please Attach Picture(s) to follow....

Describe Project: Fervent gardeners gather in a pack and traipse around the neighborhood to gardens marked as participants. The resident gardener at each site leaves the pack long enough to discourse on her or his creation, basking in a shower of appreciation. The gardener then rejoins the pack, and the group moves on to the next garden. Among the advantages to this focus are that the gardener has to speak only once, and that the group is self-selected to be keen gardeners, so the level of discourse is pretty high. And for those new to gardening, there's plenty of friendly advice. Best of all, when the day is over, one's left with a polished and tidy garden.

Cost of Project: nothing

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Set the time of day to be comfortable for walking and standing, according to the season. Make the route circular so the end is near your beginning. In his garden, Burhan offers a jug of iced mint tea.

Near West Side Gardener's Tour





Name of Neighborhood Association: Near West Side

Name of Project: Gurlz of the 'Hood

Contact Person: Sophia Hauserman

Telephone Number: 332-5556

Email Address: sofyhaus@sbcglobal.net

Please Attach Picture(s) None available

<u>Describe Project:</u> Facing the lack of a downtown senior center/gathering place, several Near West Side women began to meet monthly for lunch. We chose Max's Place because it is quiet (at lunchtime!), friendly, and central. The day is the fourth Wednesday of the month, and the time is 1pm. Join us, if you like.

Cost of Project: the price of your lunch

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Chose a date and stick to it. Send a reminder a few days ahead.

Chose a congenial place, preferably within walking distance.

My Neighborhood's "Pot Luck" Idea!

Instead of bringing food to a "Pot Luck"

Share a great idea that works in your neighborhood!

Name of Neighborhood Association: Near West Side Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Community Garden

Contact Person: Carol Stewart Gulyas

Telephone Number: 708.305.3891

Email Address: stewartgulyas@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard has been in charge of the garden behind Banneker Center for several years. The soil is very fertile and it's an organic garden. Mother Hubbard's Cupboard gave the garden to the Near West Side Neighborhood Association, with the stipulation that the garden would still be used for educational activities by the children at Banneker Center. The garden is just starting to flourish and it has provided a project that really brings the community together. Shared projects like these are great for building community. Thanks to Chris Colvard, who has taken charge of leading the planning phase, and for getting everyone out to garden planning meetings and work days.

Cost of Project:

\$0

Tips on making it work:

Have someone take charge and keep the momentum going



Name of Neighborhood Association:

Old Northeast Downtown Neighborhood Association

Name of Project:

Neighborhood Clean-up, 2013

Contact Person:

Marge Hudgins, President

Telpehone Number:

(812) 336-1188

Email Address:

margehudgins @ sbcglobal.net

Please Attach Picture(s)

Our neighborhood photographer was called out of town due a family emergency. We can provide photos if needed.

Describe Project:

To pick up trash and litter after Indiana University annual spring events.

Cost of Project:

No cost work done by neighborhood residents.

Tips on making it work:

Propose project at an winter or spring meeting of neighborhood association.

Obtain trash bags from city.

Recruit volunteers from neighborhood

Schedule a particular day for the pick up and a specific meeting place.

Provide light refreshments for volunteers.

Coordinate with city to pick up trash in city provided bags.

Note: Housing and Neighborhood Development Department of city of Bloomington has been very helpful in working with the Old Northeast Downtown Neighborhood Association in completing this 2013 project.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge

Name of Project: Park Ridge Service Recommendations

Contact Person: Steve Akers

Telephone Number: (812) 332-0326

Email Address: spakers@indiana.edu

Please Attach Picture(s)

<u>Describe Project:</u> The home services list if a collection of home service contractors who have been used by neighbors in the Park Ridge neighborhood who have been identified to be reliable, fair in price, and perform good work.

Cost of Project: no cost

Tips on making it work: I collected input via email and in person from neighbors. Everything from painting to driveway sealing. After some neighbors experienced substandard work at their homes; we thought it would be good resource to identify reputable repair persons who may be trusted. The list was established in March, 2013 and continues to grow! It is shared through email. For those neighbors who do not have access to email, I provide a hard copy.

My Neighborhood's "Pot Luck" Idea!

Instead of bringing food to a "Pot Luck" Share a great idea that works in your neighborhood!

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East

Name of Project: Community Allied Produce Share

Contact Person: Fileve "Fifi" Stahlman Palmer

Telephone Number: 812 219 3021

Email Address: ftpalmer@indiana.edu

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

The project involves having community households grow vegetables, fruits, herbs in their yard and set up a trading partnership between neighbors. The idea is to get people more connected with the food they eat and build healthier practices not only for themselves but for the environment as well. Every community could benefit by spending more time outside, reducing harmful practices such as the use of pesticides to kill weeds, reduce emissions used by mowers and driving to the store for produce, and finally learning and practicing organic gardening such as vermiculture compost which also reduces waste and saves money for trash collection. The project will also build camaraderie amongst neighbors, not just the ones who live directly across the street or on either side. In all, the produce exchange will have a positive effect on the people by encouraging healthier and more mindful practices.

Cost of Project:

The cost really is household dependent upon how big a space and time they want to dedicate to growing a garden. However there are some cost effective ways of maintaining a healthy garden, such as using a rain collection system instead of city water. The benefits of watering plants with rain water as opposed to city water are numerous. First off, rain does not have the chlorine and other chemicals put in city water that are harmful to the plants. Collection of rain reduces the need for city utilities and eases the burden of the storm drains, which also lowers water consumption and cost for the customer. Using vermiculture and composting reduces the waste produced by households (i.e. vegetative and paper products). Also using these methods means one does not have to buy costly and often poisonous fertilizer. Depending on who you know also or how you save, seeds can be exchanged and saved which is another money saver.

In all the real cost is time and effort. As aforementioned, that's all dependent on the household, but whatever the efforts the rewards are numerous!

Tips on making it work:

I think one of the best things to do would be to have people meet a few times in the neighborhood to discuss the logistics of the exchange and gardening in general. Perhaps some people are really great at growing squash or they have a particular variety while other people are great with strawberries. In that case they could exchange seeds, tips, and when the harvest comes, the produce. Having a list of producers and community members who want to participate and then meeting regularly would encourage people to share their gardening wisdom and goods.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association (PRENA)

Name of Project: PRENA Picnic

Contact Persons and Email addresses:

Tom Shafer (tomshafer@mac.com) Alwiya S. Omar (alwiyahuseina@gmail.com)

Please Attach Picture(s): Previous annual picnic pictures available at: http://parkridgeeast.blogspot.com/2012/05/annual-prena-picnic.html

Describe Project:

The picnic is an annual pot luck event that brings together Association neighbors. It is a chance to interact and meet with each other, and for children to play together at the park. Each household brings a food item to share according to the first letter of the last name

A-K: main dish L-S: fruit or salad T-Z: dessert

Cost of Project:

Association supplies cups, ice tea and lemonade. Neighbors bring plates, utensils and food.

Tips on making it work:

- Post the event on Association Blogpost

- Send out email messages to the Association list

- Distribute the Association newsletter about two weeks before the event

- Have Association garage sale before the picnic and remind neighbors about the picnic

- Put signs on the entry ways to the neighborhood



Park
Ridge
East
Picnic



Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Web presence (actually a blog)

Contact Person: John C Huffman

Telephone Number: 812 339 1993

Email Address: Huffman@indiana.edu

Please Attach Picture(s)

Cost of Project: \$0.00

Tips on making it work:

One person is in charge of the web presence, and all content is sent to that individual. This means that you should identify someone who is comfortable with a computer and social media to oversee the project. It is easy to establish a "personal" blog, and so it is easy for someone to set one up and see how it works. We find that the PRENA site gets about 150 "pageviews" per month. Note that unlike typical blogs, the entries are not "last in/first out". There are tricks to allow the author to arrange items in the order desired.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Plant Exchange

Contact Person: Kathleen Boggess

Telephone Number: 334-3678

Email Address: boggess2@comcast.net

Please Attach Picture(s) none available

Describe Project: We recently announced through our newsletter that we are starting a plant exchange in the neighborhood. Individuals will email or phone their interest in participating to Kathleen and then get together and discuss what they would be willing to exchange with each other. When the season is appropriate, plants will be dug up and given to interested neighbors.

Cost of Project: nothing

Tips on making it work: Discussing with neighbors this possibility and asking them to share the idea with their neighbors.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Neighborhood Garage Sale

Contact Person: Kathleen Boggess

Telephone Number: 334-3678

Email Address: boggess2@comcast.net

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project: Park Ridge and Park Ridge East have a combined garage sale. Neighbors are asked to let Kathleen know if they have unusual items that need to be listed in the advertisement in the Herald-Times and on Craigslist. The associations split the cost of the ad so neighbors do not have to contribute to the cost.

Cost of Project: Approximately \$50

Tips on making it work: Getting the date in the newsletter long before the actual sale is important so people have time to sort out and get organized.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: PRENA Nature Club

Contact Person: Angie Shelton

Telephone Number: 812-961-1507

Email Address: angieshltn@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

<u>Describe Project:</u> Our family nature club is open to anyone in the neighborhood, but is focused on families with school age children. Our goal is to provide a group environment to allow kids to play in and explore nature in a safe environment. We do different local activities, such as hikes, stream walks, bike rides, canoe trips, etc. We try to schedule events about every two weeks and people come when they can.

<u>Cost of Project:</u> None. Events are typically free. In the case of paid events (e.g. canoe rentals) each family pays their own way.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> We just started so we're still figuring things out. Goals are to have a regular meeting time with most activities being close to home so they don't require a lot of advance planning. We expect to do a few bigger, out of town trips each year.

Name of Neighborhood Association:

Prospect Hill Name of Project:

Doorknob Holiday Greeting

Contact Person:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Please Attach Picture(s)



Peace, joy and abundance to you today & every day of the new year.

Describe Project:

We photocopied a funny non-copyrighted picture from the web, and put a greeting with the executive committee names on it, tied it to a candy cane, and hung it on the doors. Photo copy was black and white to save \$, printed on gold paper (3 greetings per sheet) with hole punch for the ribbon. Folded over with greeting inside.

Cost of Project:

Tips on making it work:

Funny picture.

Use a sweet greeting, appropriate for culturally diverse neighbors.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Prospect Hill

Name of Project: Neighborhood Survey

Contact Person: Richard Lewis

Telephone Number:

Email Address: richardlewis@earthlink.net

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

A development was planned in our neighborhood, and some neighbors weighed in at the meetings. We wanted to know how more neighbors thought about the project and variances. Richard wrote a survey that allowed yes/no tally, and solicited potential solutions input.

Cost of Project:

Tips on making it work:

Ask clear questions, both yes/no, and choice questions to show the popularity of more than one answer.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Prospect Hill

Name of Project: 2015 Open Streets Event/Annual Fall Picnic

Contact Person: Darcie Fawcett

Telephone Number: 812-322-6589

Email Address:dfwinkle@hotmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s): Feel free to use the same Open Streets JPEG as for our

poster

Describe Project:

Prospect Hill partnered with Open Streets Bloomington to create a public street event on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Open Streets organized a great series of events, booths, activities (both adult- and kid-friendly), information booths, and displays – many from Prospect Hill residents and businesses. We closed off three long blocks of W. Fourth Street and had an afternoon full of fun for our many participants. Open Streets was a great partner and super organized, and even provided commemorative T-shirts for our neighborhood! That evening, we took advantage of the open street and held our annual fall carry-in picnic (which normally is in Building & Trades Park). We had a great picnic turnout, thanks in large part to the Open Streets event. For Prospect Hill, it was a super-successful combination of a long-standing neighborhood tradition with a new public event.

Cost of Project:

Free! Open Streets handled the costs of the event, and our picnic costs were covered by individual neighbors (who brought drinks, food, etc.).

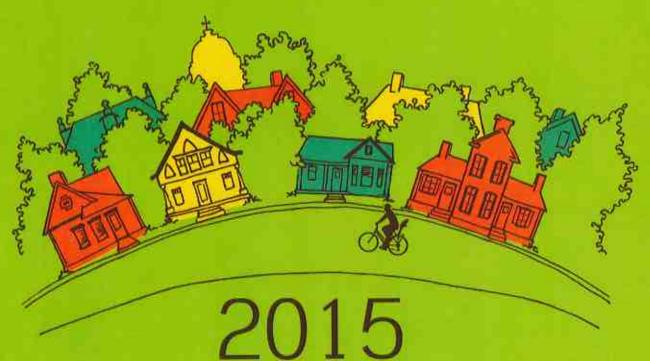
Tips on making it work:

Connect with Open Streets early on, plan far in advance, hope for good weather, and be prepared to celebrate with your neighbors!

<u>Cost of Project:</u> No monetary cost, just some motivation and dedication to your neighborhood. That is a small price to pay for a huge reward!

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Set a date several weeks in advance and announce it to the neighborhood through social media, fliers and word of mouth. Make the event fun and don't hesitate to reach out to businesses or neighborhood churches to help pick up litter the day of the event.

OPEN STREETS Prospect Hill



St. James Woods Neighborhood Association

Our Neighborhood's "Pot Luck" Idea!

Neighborhood Association: St. James Woods is located at the corner of Moore's Pike and Smith Road, with a single entrance and exit on Moore's Pike. There are 39 lot owners (44 lots) in the development, which has existed since the early 2000's, and which was incorporated into the City sometime in 2004-05). The Association was formed in June of 2006.

Name of Project: Collaborative Community Garden Project

Contact Person: Dave Cumings **Telephone Number:** 812-334-0291

Email Address: szcmn@comcast.net

Describe Project:

This project evolved from a neighborhood brainstorming session on how to improve an area viewed as an unattractive, unmanageable woodland adjoining our neighborhood utilized as a community walkway. The area was a breeding ground for poison ivy, scrub trees, weeds, chiggers, and ticks. It was difficult for our neighborhood to maintain the area due to the previously mentioned undesirable problems. This area also blocked the view of drivers from our addition exiting onto Moore's Pike.

We felt that beautifying this section of our development with flowers, bushes, and trees would not only improve our neighborhood appearance and enhance the entranceway to St. James Woods, but would also provide a source of beauty for the many walkers, joggers, and hikers from other neighborhoods who pass across the entryway and through the west woods on a regular and frequent basis. Creating a Collaborative Community Garden Project would also provide us with another way to promote collaboration and reinforce neighborhood pride and cooperation among our residents.

The first phase of the Project was simply a neighborhood decision, several years ago, to install weed screen and mulch along sixty feet of the area to avoid weekly mowing. At that time, our Association began a minimal landscaping project to prevent our members from becoming infected or bitten by the inhabitants of the undeveloped area.

Since last summer, however, our Association has aggressively pursued our dream of transforming the walkway into a beautiful nature path along the sidewalk that winds between the woods and the backyard fence of the subdivision and parallel to Moore's Pike. We developed a plan to divide the area into six gardens and offered each garden for "adoption" by a St. James Woods resident. The Association agreed to fund the project a few feet annually. During our neighborhood discussions, Vicki Pappas, Secretary of the Association, mentioned a City grant that might make our vision become a reality. She applied for the grant on behalf of the Association and we were accepted for City funding!

Currently three gardens have been adopted and are actively maintained by our neighbors. The walkway will be in full bloom in the spring and summer. When this project is completed, the area will be a beautiful woodland walkway many Association members and walking friends from other neighborhoods will be able to enjoy. It will also eliminate the need for our Association to mow the woods' weeds; eliminate the City's need to mow the Moore's Pike roadside; and reduce maintenance to overhead power lines.

Cost of Project:

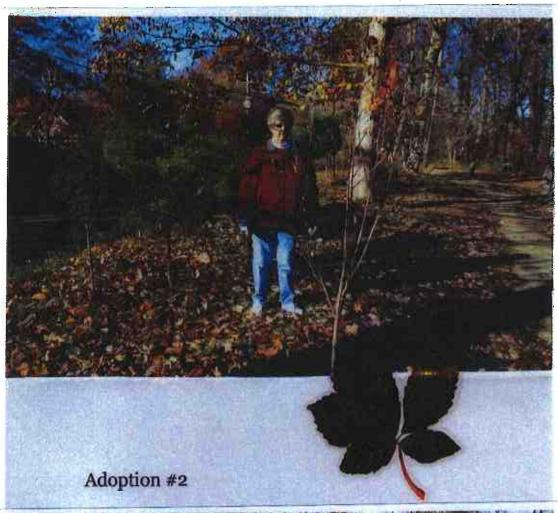
We applied for and have received two City Neighborhood grants, totaling \$1500. In addition, our Association has budgeted \$600 annually for the past two years to fund purchase of plants and other materials. In addition, neighbors have made in-kind contributions of plants and work time to create and maintain the garden,

Tips on making it work:

- 1. First and foremost, we have a Neighborhood Beautification Committee, inspired and led by Dave Cumings. They have been absolutely committed to this project, and helped to generate interest in the gardens. They also contributed a lot of the initial person-power to get the project started, which provided a good model for other neighbors to follow.
- 2. Funding through the City's Small and Simple Grants program gave us the impetus to expand the planting. As the gardens took shape, more pride and excitement about the project have been evident.
- 3. The idea of residents "adopting" a garden, a small area of land, made volunteering feasible for people who might not have the time or talents to tackle a large garden. The Beautification Committee offers "training," tools, support, and advice to the volunteers.
- 4. Some neighbors who couldn't adopt a garden came up with other ways to participate. Some have donated their extra plants after they thinned their own gardens. A few residents were willing and able to adopt a "pot" instead of an area of land.
- 5. We have created a periodic "Woodsy Gram" that is sent out electronically by our Communications Chair. This keeps the neighbors informed of progress and alerts them to new things to look for in the area.
- 6. We've also discovered a new City resource that will help our gardeners during the summer, where they have had to manually cart water up to their plots in the heat. The City has an "Adopt a Meter" program which we are investigating for the coming summer.





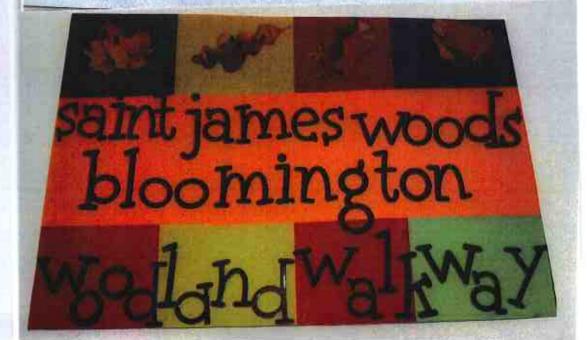






Who wins from this project?

Walkers, Joggers, St.James Woods Residents
and City of Bloomington



Name of Neighborhood Association: St. James Woods Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Individual Special Events

Contact Person: Jack Dvorak

Telephone Number: 339-9770

Email Address: dvorakj44@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

<u>Describe Project:</u> Individual neighbors have been kind enough to sponsor, organize and host special events in their homes. The two that have been recently done are:

- 1. December Holiday Open House. Various holiday treats and spirits were prepared and served by a generous neighbor who had an open house during mid-December. Neighbors dropped in within a two-hour period during a Sunday afternoon for some holiday cheer and conversation.
- 2. New Year's Open House. Similarly, new neighbors hosted a New Year's Open House. They provided all the refreshments, both food and drink, and many neighbors attended. It was a good way for these new neighbors to meet others socially while generously providing a community-building event during the New Year's holidays.

<u>Cost of Project:</u> Borne by the individual home-owners (hosts). Several delicious hors d oeuvres and beverages, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, were available at both events.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Having neighbors who care about the neighborhood and who enjoy entertaining in this way. We are fortunate in having a tight geographical area with 38 homes and 6 empty lots, so we are tight-knit in that respect. Events like this open house during the holidays solidify the spirit of the neighborhood, and we are thankful that Vicki Pappas has sponsored and hosted the December event for the past several years. Also, we are thankful for new neighbors Charley and Linda Pickle for hosting a New Year's open house for the first time.

Name of Neighborhood Association: St. James Woods Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Outdoor Socials (meals)

Contact Person: Jack Dvorak

Telephone Number: 339-9770

Email Address: dvorakj44@gmail.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

<u>Describe Project: Socials:</u> Twice a year Irene Reedy, chair of the special events committee, has organized a meal on the cul de sac near her home. In the fall, it has been a chili supper, with various volunteers making chili. Often there are 4 or 5 types to sample. In the late spring, Irene has organized a pancake breakfast, with various volunteers flipping the pancakes. Irene has purchased most of the food and done the yeoman's share of the organizing. Volunteers help with setting up tables. Typically about 30 neighbors attend these outdoor meals...in a neighborhood with 38 homes and 6 empty lots.

<u>Cost of Project:</u> Typically these cost about \$75, and the cost comes from the treasury of the association.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Having a leader, such as Irene, who organizes the volunteer helpers and who plans and shops for the food.

These socials have proven to be a great source of community bonding as well as *esprit de corps*.

St. James Woods Outdoor Socials





Name of Neighborhood Association: Sherwood Oaks Neighbors

Name of Project: Miles of Lights luminary display

Contact Person: Lisa Wrasse

Telephone Number: (prefer e-mail)

Email Address: lisawrasse@comcast.net

Please Attach Picture(s) Additional images may be viewed here: http://sherwoodoaksneighbors.blogspot.com/2012/12/images-of-miles-of-lights.html

Describe Project:

In December of 2012 Sherwood Oaks created a new neighborhood tradition by having its first annual luminary display. The Miles of Lights luminary display was a memorable evening of celebrating a year of community and fellowship among neighbors by lining our sidewalks with candlelight. Neighbors enjoyed strolling our sidewalks or driving our streets to see our neighborhood transformed by the glow of hundreds of paper luminaries.

Several neighbors volunteered for the Sherwood Oaks Neighbors luminary committee. The committee was responsible for placing, lighting, and cleaning up the luminaries on the main Sherwood Oaks thoroughfares. In future years we hope to have greater participation from neighbors and expand the display to the entire neighborhood.

Luminaries consist of a votive candle placed in sand in a paper white bag. Approximately 4 luminaries were placed to line the sidewalks in front of each house. Next year we are thinking of doubling that amount for greater visual impact.

Cost of Project:

There was no cost to the neighborhood association as all supplies were donated by individuals or businesses.

Tips on making it work:

Much advance preparation and communication is needed to secure supplies and coordinate volunteers. Also, a rain date is essential since dry weather is a must.

Sherwood Oaks

Miles of Lights Luminary Display



My Neighborhood's "Pot Luck" Idea!

Instead of bringing food to a "Pot Luck"

Share a great idea that works in your neighborhood!

Name of Neighborhood Association: SoMax

Name of Project: Pie Party

Contact Person: Carrol Krause

Telephone Number: 339-7392

Email Address: lorrac58@gmail.com

Describe Project: SoMax began as a series of block parties. When my husband Frank and I moved into our current home on Marilyn Drive, we didn't know anyone. I was pregnant and we had a lot on our minds in the first week, sorting out our goods and getting the house arranged. When we were done, we looked around our new home and walked around in our yard. We saw other people driving by and mowing lawns nearby, but we did not know a single person on our block and no one had dropped by our house to welcome us. At our old house we had thrown parties with some regularity and we were civil, if not friendly, with the people next door. But here, we felt stranded and isolated. "I know what we should do," I said, "let's invite everyone on the block to a pie party next weekend." So we went door-to-door up and down the street, sixteen houses total, and knocked. Neighbors opened their doors to see a pregnant woman and her bearded husband. "Hi," I told each person, "we're the new neighbors at 1925 Marilyn. I'm Carrol and this is my husband Frank, and we'd like to invite you to stop by next Saturday afternoon and have some home-baked pie." Everyone was charmed, and delighted! We went home at the end of an hour or so knowing the names of everyone on the street. It turned out there were two other families with babies or young children on the block, so we immediately bonded and our children began playing together. The original pie party segued into a regular series of block parties at different people's homes; we turned out to be such an amenable bunch that if a month and a half went by without a party, someone would announce "We need a party; I'm hosting the next one." And after ten years or so of fun on one block, we finally extended the door-knocking to the entire surrounding area, and SoMax was born.

<u>Cost of Project:</u> Virtually nil: baking supplies and blueberries for pie.

<u>Tips on making it work:</u> Look friendly and non-threatening, and offer something that everyone likes to eat.

Name of Neighborhood Association: Spicewood Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Christmas Eve Luminaries

Contact Person: Shirley Megnin

Telephone Number:

Email Address: megnin.sam@sbcglobal.net

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

Spicewood II has celebrated Christmas Eve in a very special way for the past 30 years. Flyers are passed out in the neighborhood a couple of weeks before Christmas announcing who will share their garage for assembling the luminaries. Each household is responsible for lighting their candles at dark. If your neighbor is out of town, you light theirs. The luminaries burn all night! It is such a tradition; we have hundreds of cars drive through every year. It is beautiful and a source of pride in our neighborhood!

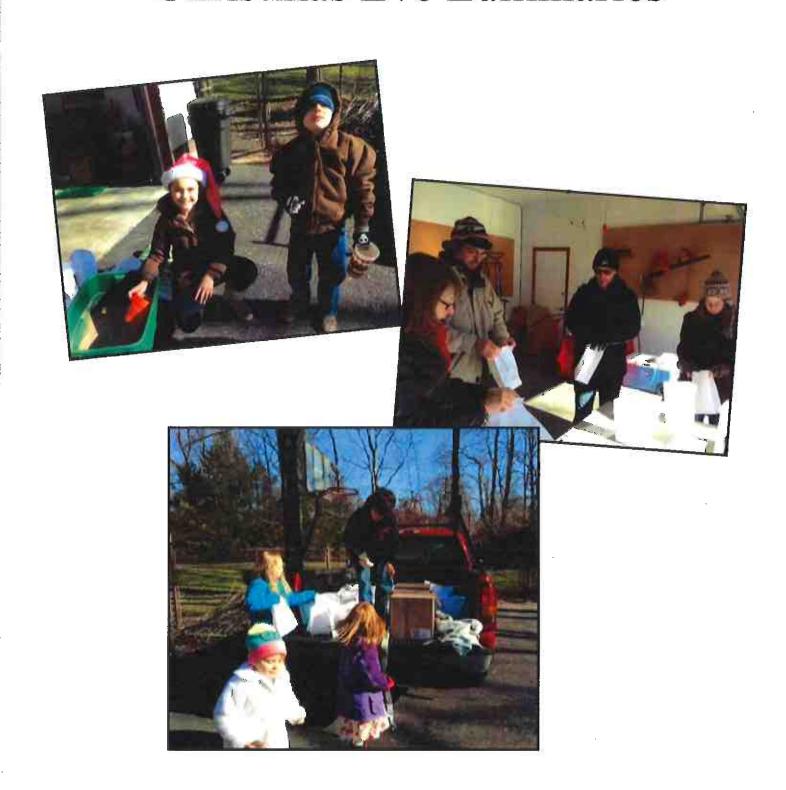
Cost of Project:

Each family is asked to donate \$15.00 for supplies (white lunch bags, sand, & emergency candles).

Tips on making it work:

Families arrive around 1 PM on Christmas Eve to begin putting approximately 350 luminaries together. The host family shares hot chocolate & coffee. Those attending bring snacks. Each white bag has to be opened & rolled down to enable them to stand upright. Sand is scooped into each bag, & then a large emergency candle is placed in each bag. The bags are placed in a pickup & several children follow along & distribute luminaries in the street in front of each house as well as several up each driveway.

Spicewood Christmas Eve Luminaries



Name of Neighborhood Association: Spicewood Neighborhood Association

Name of Project: Neighborhood Picnic

Contact Person: John Kennedy

Telephone Number: 812 332 8583

Email Address: JMK22@outlook.com

Please Attach Picture(s)

Describe Project:

Last summer, the newly-organized Spicewood Neighborhood Association held its first event. The focus of the picnic was to introduce the Association and demonstrate that it was able to organize events. Approximately 60 Spicewood residents attended the picnic.

Cost of Project: Minimal

Tips on making it work:

We believed that a flyer and an attractive sign were very important to demonstrate that the Association was sufficiently organized to hold a picnic that would attract enough neighborhood residents to attend.



Spicewood Neighborhood Picnic



Spicewood Neighborhood Association

<u>What</u>: the first neighborhood activity – picnic pitch-in for Spicewood residents of all ages

When: Saturday July 13 at 6:00 PM

What to bring: a dish to share, your own

plates, utensils, chairs, drinks; tables will be provided





<u>Why</u>: to meet your neighbors, to have a good time, to learn more about Spicewood, to talk to the association organizing committee about the current and planned activities including the new street trees, working with the city on neighborhood issues, and to offer your thoughts about the future of Spicewood

More information or to join the Spicewood email list, contact:

John Kennedy: 812 332 8583: jmk22@outlook.com

Sandy Sabbagh: 812 327 6973: ssabbagh@prudentialindiana.com

Name of Neighborhood Association: Sunflower Gardens

Name of Project: The Sunflower Gardens "Wiki"

Contact Person: Terry Fink

Telephone Number: 617 306 7944

Email Address: editor @sunflowergardenswiki.com



Describe Project:

The residents of the Sunflower Gardens Neighborhoods recently collaborated to launch a new website (SunflowerGardensWiki.com) to solve the problem of how to keep close at hand all the useful-to-have information about the neighborhood.

Up until the launch of this website in February 2017, there was no central repository containing both official and unofficial information about the neighborhood. And what was available focused on members of a mowing/insurance collective to the exclusion of residents and owners that were not members of the collective.

Using readily available public domain tools the Neighborhood Association was able to establish an easily modifiable website within a matter of weeks. Now, in one location, residents and owners can find current and past news about the neighborhood, relevant state and local rules and regulations, copies of legal documents that cover certain aspects of the community, minutes and records of boards and committees that address neighborhoods issues, pictures from neighborhood events, copies of the neighborhood plats, and so on.

The centerpiece of the website is a web page known as the "wiki" which can be found at:

https://sunflowergardenswiki.com/sg-wiki/

It covers everything one might want to know about the neighborhood in a simple Q&A format. This choice of format makes the Wiki easily extendable by the community. If something is missing,, all that is needed is for a question to be written. Like Wikipedia, the answer can be sourced from those who are in the best position to provide one.

Cost of Project:

 \sim \$100.

Tips on making it work:

Reach out to others who have published websites for ideas on how to best present your information within the limits of the software package you decide to use. Preview the website with neighborhood residents and thought leaders while it is still under development to gather feedback and generate support. FYI, we decided to use the tools at WordPress.com for our site and find that they work well for what we wanted to do.

